

**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES BRANCH
DIVISION OF EPIDEMIOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL
HEALTH
COMMUNICABLE DISEASE SERVICE
INFECTIOUS AND ZONOTIC DISEASE PROGRAM**

N.J.A.C. CHAPTER 23

**IMPORTATION OF DOGS, REPORTING OF RABIES IN ANIMALS, CONTROL OF AVIAN
CHLAMYDIOSIS IN PET BIRDS, TURTLES AND TURTLE EGG SALES, AND
TRANSPORTATION BY ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS**

Proposed: April 18, 2005 at 37 *N.J.R.* 1113(a) (see also 37 *N.J.R.* 4019(a)).

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SUBCHAPTER 1. IMPORTATION OF DOGS, RABIES REPORTING, TRANSPORTATION OF CONFINED ANIMALS, AND CONTROL OF AVIAN CHLAMYDIOSIS IN PET BIRDS

8:23-1.1 Importation of dogs; certification requirements

Dogs shall not be brought into this state excepting when in transit or for breeding, laboratory, or exhibition purposes unless accompanied by a health certificate issued by a licensed veterinarian of the state or nation of the dog's origin indicating that the dog is free from rabies and other communicable disease and has not recently been exposed to any such disease. This certificate shall also state the breed, sex, age, point of origin, point of destination, the name and post office address of the consignee or owner and the consignor or seller and if the dog has been vaccinated, type and date of vaccination.

8:23-1.2 Reporting of cases of rabies in animals

(a) Persons, including veterinarians and animal control officers, having in their possession, care or control, owning or having an interest in or knowledge of, an animal affected with rabies or suspected of being affected with rabies, shall provide forthwith a report containing the fact of the animal being affected with or suspected of being affected with rabies to the person designated to receive such reports by the local health agency having jurisdiction over the place where the animal is located.

(b) The report shall contain, in addition to the fact of the animal being affected with or suspected of being affected with rabies, the following additional information, to the extent the information is available to the reporter:

1. The location of the animal;
2. A description of the animal;
3. The name, address and telephone number of the owner or person with possession, care, or control, or having interest in the animal; and
4. The reporter's name and telephone number.

(c) The reporter shall submit the report by telephone, telefacsimile, or electronic mail, or in person, or in any other manner determined by the local health agency or its designee to be acceptable.

8:23-1.3 Transportation of confined animals

Animals confined by provisions of *N.J.S.A. 26:4-82, 83, or 84* shall not be transported from confinement unless permission therefor shall be granted by the health officer of the municipality in this State into which such animal or animals are to be transported under conditions which may be prescribed by the Department. In the event the destination of a confined animal is beyond the boundaries of this State, permission must be obtained from the Department of Health and Senior Services.

8:23-1.4 **Quarantine, testing and transportation of quarantined pet birds**

(a) Whenever a veterinarian diagnoses a case of avian chlamydiosis in a pet bird within the jurisdiction of a local health agency, or there is danger of the transmission of avian chlamydiosis from that jurisdiction, the local health agency shall establish adequate bird quarantine procedures.

(b) The right of the Department of Health and Senior Services to establish bird quarantine procedure for any area of the State wherein psittacosis exists, or danger exists of the spread of that disease, shall not be considered as limited or otherwise affected by the provisions of this chapter.

(c) Laboratory testing when appropriate shall be performed on quarantined birds(s) suspected of having psittacosis and the fees for such testing shall be paid by the owner of the bird(s).

(d) Quarantined birds shall not be transported from a quarantined area unless permission therefore shall be granted by the health officer of the municipality or local health district in this State into which such birds are to be transported under conditions which may be prescribed by the Department. In the event the destination of quarantined birds is beyond the boundaries of this State, permission must be obtained from the Department of Health and Senior Services.

8:23-1.5 **Records of dealers in pet birds**

Dealers in pet birds shall keep a record for at least two years of each transaction relating to such birds. This record shall include the names and addresses of sellers and purchasers of these birds, and the date of each transaction. Such record shall be available to inspection by authorized representatives of a local health agency or the Department of Health and Senior Services.

SUBCHAPTER 2. SALE OR DISTRIBUTION OF VIABLE TURTLE EGGS AND LIVE TURTLES

8:23-2.1 **Sale or distribution of viable turtle eggs and live turtles**

(a) Subject to, and except as otherwise provided at, *21 C.F.R. § 1240.62*, viable turtle eggs and live turtles with a carapace length of less than four inches shall not be sold, held for sale, or offered for any other type of commercial or public distribution.

(b) Live turtles of carapace length of four inches or greater shall not be sold or in any way distributed or offered for sale or distribution within the State unless the person or entity seeking to sell or distribute the turtles warrants to the satisfaction of the Department of Health and Senior Services that each shipment of turtles is free from *Salmonella* contamination.

(c) The Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, in his or her discretion, may waive the requirements of (b) above for live turtles sold or distributed within this State for the purposes of research, other zoological purposes, or for food.

SUBCHAPTER 3. TRANSPORTATION OF ANIMALS BY ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS

8:23-3.1 Transportation of animals by animal control officers; responsibility

(a) Animal control officers transporting animals under the provisions of *N.J.S.A. 4:19-15.16b* shall comply with the rules governing the transport of animals as set forth in *N.J.A.C. 8:23A-1.12*.

(b) The Department of Health and Senior Services and the local health agency with jurisdiction in the municipality where the animal control officer is providing this service shall have concurrent jurisdiction and responsibility to enforce this provision.